



PATENT
450101-4669

2613

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#8

BA6/27/03

Applicant(s) : Naofumi YANAGIHARA et al.

Serial No. : 09/341,401

For : DIGITAL SIGNAL CONVERSION METHOD
AND DIGITAL SIGNAL CONVERSION DEVICE

Filed : August 23, 1999

Examiner : Shawn S. AN

Art Unit : 2613

RECEIVED

JUN 26 2003

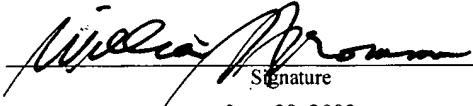
Technology Center 2600

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 20, 2003.

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)



Signature

June 20, 2003

Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT
FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action which issued in this application on May 23, 2003, requiring an election of species among those species readable on Figures 1, (9A-9C), 11-15, 19-23 and 27, respectively.

It is submitted that claims 1-76 are readable on the above-identified drawing figures as follows:

Species I, Fig. 1, on which Claims 1-8 and 14-19 read;
Species II, Fig. 9A-9C, on which Claims 9-13 read;
Species III, Fig. 11, on which Claims 14-19 and 31-42 read;
Species IV, Fig. 12, on which Claims 14-19 and 31-42 read;
Species V, Fig. 13, on which Claims 20-30 and 60-70 read;
Species VI, Fig. 14, on which Claims 60-70 read;
Species VII, Fig. 15, on which Claims 60-70 read;
Species VIII, Fig. 19, on which Claims 43-47 and 71-74 read;
Species IX, Fig. 20, on which Claims 43-47 and 71-74 read;
Species X, Fig. 21, on which Claims 43-47 and 71-74 read;
Species XI, Fig. 22, on which Claims 49-54, 75 and 76 read;
Species XII, Fig. 23, on which Claims 55-59, 75 and 76 read; and
Species XIII, Fig. 27, on which Claims 75 and 76 read.

Applicants elect, **without traverse**, Species I corresponding to Figure 1, including claims 1-8 and 14-19, for further prosecution in the present application. As is apparent, several claims are generic to more than one species.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner and believe that there are only four distinct species in the present application. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to revise the requirement for an election of species to identify the species as follows:

Species I, illustrated by drawing Figs. 1, 11 and 12, on which Claims 1-8, 14-19 and 31-42 read;

Species II, illustrated by drawing Figs. 9A-9C, 13, 14 and 15, on which Claims 9-13, 20-30 and 60-70 read;

Species III, illustrated by drawing Figs. 19, 20 and 21, on which Claims 43-47 and 71-74 read; and

Species IV, illustrated by drawing Figs. 22, 23 and 27, on which Claims 49-59, 75 and 76 read.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the claims of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:



William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800